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HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1958



Medical Officer of Health.

H.E. Nutton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector.

F.W.Y. Buckley, M.A.P.H.I.,  
M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.H.E., M.Inst.B.E.



HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

H.E. NUTTEN,  
Medical Officer of Health.

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Halesworth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1958.

There is an increase of 20 in the population as estimated by the Registrar General.

The number of Births registered is the lowest since 1951. There is a decrease of 19 from the previous year. The adjusted Death Rate is still less than the average for England and Wales. There are no still Births or deaths of Infants under 1 year of age. The maternal Mortality is again Nil.

Altogether the year has been most satisfactory from a Public Health point of view.

The information in this Report on food premises, shops, factories, housing etc., is compiled by your Public Health Inspector to whom I am indebted.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,


H.E. NUTTEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Municipal Offices,  
Blyburgate,  
Beccles,  
Suffolk.

Tel: Beccles 3113.

25th May, 1959.



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# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ..	1,107
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1958) ..	2,350
Number of inhabited houses ... ..	752
Rateable Value ... ..	£30,345
Product of penny rate ... ..	£111

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Total	17	9	26
Legitimate	17	9	26
Illegitimate	-	-	-

### Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Total	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

### Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	Male	Female	Total
Total	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.

	Male	Female	Total
Total	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

## Deaths - All ages

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths - All ages	11	10	21
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)			Nil
Total Live and Still Births (No still Births)			26

## RATES

	DISTRICT	ENGLAND & WALES
Illegitimacy Rate (per 1,000 live births... ..)	Nil	+
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population.. ...	11.0	16.4
Adjusted Birth Rate ... ..	12.8	-
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births... ..	Nil	+
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)... ..	Nil	21.6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (total).. ...	Nil	22.5
-do- (legitimate)... ..	Nil	+
-do- (Illegitimate).. ..	Nil	+
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births (during first 4 weeks) ... ..	Nil	16.2
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population.. ...	8.9	11.7
Adjusted Death rate ... ..	7.9	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births...	Nil	0.43

Comparability Factor (Births) 1.16  
Comparability Factor (Deaths) 0.89

+ Not yet available.

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory. ...	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other. ... ..	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.. ... ..	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria ... ..	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.. ...	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis. ... ..	-	-	-
8. Measles. ... ..	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	-	-	-
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	-	1	1
Carried forward	-	2	2



Causes of Death				Male	Female.	Total
Brought forward				-	2	2
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	...	...	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes..	...	...	-	-	-
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system			2	-	2
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	4	3	7
19.	Hypertension with heart disease...			1	-	1
20.	Other heart diseases..	...	...	2	4	6
21.	Other circulatory diseases..	...	...	-	-	-
22.	Influenza.	...	...	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia.	...	...	-	-	-
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	-	-	-
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system			-	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	-	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea			1	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	-	-	-
29.	Nyperplasia of prostate	...	...	-	-	-
30.	Congenital malformations	...	...	-	-	-
31.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion...			-	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	...	...	-	1	1
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	-	-	-
34.	All other accidents...	...	...	-	-	-
35.	Suicide....	...	...	1	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	-	-	-
				11	10	21

Notes on causes of Death.

Suicide. In a male aged 57 - Barbiturate Poisoning.

ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATES - COMPARABILITY FACTOR

Local Birth Rates are expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including those who have no influence on the birth rate. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a high proportion of them in a population tends to lower, and a small proportion tends to raise, the true rate. The size of this proportion will vary in different areas and, therefore, the elimination or standardisation of such a factor will give a truer comparison between areas.

The Registrar General issues a comparability factor on these lines. Multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by the comparability factor gives the adjusted birth rate and can be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for deaths is obtained in a similar way to the above. The factors for certain areas, where rapid increase or reduction in the population materially affects its comparison by sex and age groups, are also adjusted on that account. Death rate area comparability factors are adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. Birth Rate area comparability factors are also adjusted to take account of the presence of sterile populations in institutions for the mentally ill or mentally deficient.

Table showing the more important causes of death, numbers and Percentages.

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths		Percentage	
	1957	1958	1957	1958
Diseases of circulatory system...	9	14	36.00	66.66
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	2	8.00	9.54
Malignant diseases...	6	2	24.00	9.54
Pneumonia and Bronchitis...	3	-	12.00	-
Influenza	-	-	-	-
All other causes	5	3	20.00	14.28
	25	21	100.00	100.02

In 1958 86% of all deaths fell under the first three headings. The Comparable figure for 1957 was 68 and the comparable figure for 1956 was 78.

Comparative Statistics

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Population... ..	2171	2169	2186	2249	2270	2310	2310	2330	2350
No. of Inhabited Houses.	890	742	772	810	830	806	745	761	752
No. of Live Births..	29	23	34	35	29	49	38	45	26
Birth Rate (crude)..	13.4	10.6	15.5	15.5	12.8	21.2	16.5	19.3	11.0
No. of Still Births	2	1	0	1	0	4	1	0	0
Maternal mortality.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infant mortality rate...	0	43.5	45.4	142.8	0	20.4	0	0	0
(No. of deaths)...	(-)	(1)	(2)	(5)	(-)	(1)	(-)	(-)	(-)
No. of deaths (all ages).	27	40	30	30	30	18	23	25	21
Death Rate (crude)..	12.4	18.4	13.7	13.3	13.2	7.8	9.9	10.7	8.9

Infectious Diseases

Number of all confirmed cases of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year 1958 according to age and sex.

Age	Measles			Whooping Cough			Puerperal Pyrexia	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Female	Total
Under 1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	4	3	7	-	-	-	-	-
2 -	3	4	7	-	-	-	-	-
3 -	1	3	4	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	9	6	15	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	22	34	56	-	5	5	-	-
10 - 14	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 or over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1
Total	42	53	95	-	6	6	3	3

Grand Total = 104.

Diseases notified during the year, classified according to month of occurrence

Month	Measles	Whooping Cough	Puerperal Pyrexia
January	6	-	-
February	2	-	-
March	76	-	-
April	10	-	-
May	1	-	-
June	-	-	-
July	-	-	-
Carried forward	95	-	-



Month	Measles	Whooping Cough	Puerperal Pyrexia
Brought forward	95	-	-
August	-	-	1
September	-	3	-
October	-	-	1
November	-	3	-
December	-	-	-
Total	95	6	3

Grand Total = 104.

#### Notes on Infectious Diseases.

##### Puerperal Pyrexia.

Definition:- This is any febrile condition occurring in a woman in whom a temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or more has occurred within fourteen days after childbirth or miscarriage.

Three cases were notified during the year. In each case the cause of the elevation of temperature was known.

##### Diphtheria Immunisation

In Halesworth Urban District in 1958, 39 primary immunisations were carried out by the child welfare clinic and general practitioners. The ages of the children immunised were as follows:-

Year of Birth	Numbers immunised
1958	7
1957	29
1956	-
1955	-
1954	-
1953	-
1952	2
1951	1
1950	-
1949	-
1948	-
1943-1947	-
Total	39

During the same year, 24 booster doses were given.

##### Primary immunisations:-

1957	32
1956	12
1955	23
1954	1

TUBERCULOSIS

	Males		Females		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1957.	8	2	4	3	17
Number of cases <u>added</u> during the year.	1	-	1	1	3
Number of cases <u>removed</u> during the year.	-	-	1	1	2
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1958.	9	2	4	3	18

Cases added to the Register		Cases removed from the Register	
New notifications	= 2	Recovered	= 1
Inward transfers	= 1	Died	= 0
		Removed to other areas	= 1
Total	= 3	Total	= 2

Cases on the Register, according to age and sex at 31st December, 1958.

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
Under 5 years	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	2	-	2
15 - 24 years	-	1	1
25 - 44 years	6	3	9
45 - 64	3	3	6
65 years and over	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-
	11	7	18

Comparative Figures of Tuberculosis at 31st December, 1958.

District	Population	Number of Cases		Total	Cases per 1000 Popula- tion
		Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary		
Beccles M.B.	6,980	28	5	33	4.7
Blyth R.D.	19,100	55	14	69	3.6
Bungay U.D.	3,580	25	5	30	8.4
Halesworth U.D.	2,350	13	5	18	7.6
Leiston-cum- Sizewell U.D.	4,140	21	3	24	5.7
Wainford R.D.	6,830	19	10	29	4.2



REPORT OF THE  
SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE  
YEAR 1958

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1958.

WATER.

Water is supplied by the Halesworth Urban District Council and a supplementary supply is available up to 25,000 gallons per day from the Walpole bores of the Blyth Rural District Council. The average daily consumption is 77,000 gallons and the supply is pure and wholesome, of the highest standard of bacterial purity and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

One small extension of the water mains has been carried out in the Queens Drive area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

One small extension to the sewerage system has been carried out in the Queens Drive area.

The Sewerage Works at Bramfield Road continue to operate satisfactorily and work of maintenance has continued well throughout the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A weekly collection of refuse is made by the Council employing two men and one refuse waggon. Disposal is by means of controlled tipping at Cookley.

The sewers are inspected at six monthly intervals for the possible infestation of rats. No infestation has been found.

Street cleaning is carried out daily and storm water gullies are emptied at regular intervals.

RODENT CONTROL.

One part time operator is employed by the Authority. There are 752 houses and 194 business premises in the Council's area and complaints have been dealt with immediately. As stated investigation of the Town's sewers has failed to show any trace of rat infestation.

Specialist firms in rat infestation are still employed by some business premises in the area and co-operation between these firms and the Local Authority continues.

DISINFESTATION.

Three complaints of infestation with fleas and one complaint of cockroaches have been dealt with.

Considerable concern is felt by the increasing numbers of complaints of infestation with woodworm and it must be appreciated that the cost of treatment for such infestation is heavy, by reason of the particular care which has to be taken in the treatment and the amount of repair which has, in some cases, to be undertaken. It is felt that there are still cases where the infestation may well have been brought into the dwelling and immediate treatment by the tenants themselves would prevent spread of the infestation to furniture and house timbers, with the resultant high expenditure in eradication of infestation and repair of damage.



## ICE CREAM.

There are 10 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream in the area all of which sell pre-packed Ice Cream.

## FOOD PREMISES.

36 inspections of food premises have been carried out during the year under review, and five premises were found to be in some respects unsatisfactory. All cases, where unsatisfactory conditions were found, have been dealt with informally and necessary alterations and additionl made.

## MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	143	Nil	4	Nil	306
Number inspected	143	Nil	4	Nil	306
Whole Carcases condemned: Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Causes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned: Tuberculosis	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	7
Other Causes	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

There are two small Slaughterhouses in the Town which are used only for supplying the shops of their Owners. The premises are old but are maintained in a very clean condition.

Judged upon the basis of figures and the requirements of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, it would appear inevitable that the continuation of small slaughterhouses will require considerable alteration and consequent expenditure of large sums of money, in order to conform to the necessary requirements.

## HOUSING.

During the year 68 houses were inspected, 12 of which were found to have defects. As a result of informal action the necessary repairs have been carried out at 11 of the houses.

The financial situation which prevailed during part of the period under review caused a slowing down of the housing Slum Clearance Programme, owing to the deleterious affect on rentals of the replacement housing due to high loan rates.

Closing Orders were made in respect of four premises. Three new houses were built during the year and were allocated for Slum Clearance.

HOUSING (Continued).

Three new houses were erected by private enterprise.

No Improvement Grants were made during the year.

FACTORIES.

There are 30 premises registered as factories in the Area, all of which have been visited. No defects were found during these visits.

I am, Sirs,  
Your obedient Servant,

F.W.Y. BUCKLEY,

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector.